

## **Williamsburg Area Arts Commission Meeting Minutes**

May 18, 2009, 9-11 a.m.

City of Williamsburg, Municipal Building

Third Floor Conference Room

### **Attendance**

Present: Sophie Hart, Laura Barry, Polly Bartlett, Terry Buntrock, Les Dubnick, Michael Kirby, Lanette McNeil, Paul Tongue, Shelley Weisberg and City Liaison, Julie Phares.

### **Welcome and Public Comment**

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. No members of the public were present.

### **Approval of the March 9, 2009, Meeting Minutes**

Adoption of the March minutes was moved by Mr. Tongue and seconded by Mr. Kirby. Minutes were approved unanimously.

### **WAAC Business**

#### **Funding Letters (Year End Reports due June 30, 2009)**

Ms. Phares provided copies of the current Grant Guidelines, which are also on the WAAC Web page. Commissioners should remind liaison groups to review them and pay special attention to the Checklist for Funding since they will not receive funding until all documents have been submitted. Ms. Phares also will mail reminders to each group.

#### **Notification of Appropriations from Localities**

Both the City and James City County approved the 2010 WAAC budget. Ms. Hart and Ms. Phares will send thank you letters in June. No word yet on the state matching grant.

### **Cultural Alliance of Greater Hampton Roads Common Grant Form Meeting – Update**

Ms. Hart has not heard further from CAGHR on this subject.

#### **Interviews of New Arts Organizations – Update**

Ms. Weisberg contacted arts commissions from the surrounding area and discovered that most conduct yearly interviews of grantees. She will provide a written report for discussion at a future WAAC meeting.

#### **WAAC Web Address**

Ms. Phares reported that she has been working with the City's IT department to simplify the WAAC Web link. As a result, the following direct link can now be shared with WAAC grantees:

<http://www.williamsburgva.gov/waac>.

#### **Arts Brochure and W&M Arts Links**

In response to questions from City Council, WAAC is working with area constituents to determine if there is sufficient interest in an arts brochure and exploring ideas for Web-based publicity of area arts. Ms. Buntrock noted that the former may present a funding challenge while the latter would be more economical. Ms. Bartlett suggested inviting Rob Cross from the Virginia Arts Festival to speak with WAAC about successful arts marketing. Ms. Hart will follow up with Mr. Cross.

Re: City Council's suggestions to pursue contacts with William and Mary's arts organizations, Ms. Hart spoke with Mayor Jeanne Zeidler, who suggested considering this in the context of the larger arts community. Ms. Hart and Mr. Kirby will discuss the role of the new visual arts center before moving forward with contacting members of the College's various arts departments.

### **Future Meetings**

WAAC will be hosted for lunch by the York County Arts Commission at noon on Wednesday, May 27 at Riverwalk Landing. Those wishing to carpool should meet at the City Municipal building at 11:30 a.m.

Monday, July 13, 2009, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., City Municipal Building, third floor conference room.

Friday, Sept. 18, 2009, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., City Municipal Building, third floor conference room.

### **Annual Election of Officers**

The following slate of WAAC Officers for 2009-2010 will assume duties on July 1, 2009:

Chairman, Sophie Hart  
Vice-Chairman, Shelley Weisberg  
Secretary, Terry Buntrock  
Events Calendar, Paul Tongue

Ms. Hart expressed the commissioners' appreciation for excellent service by Laura Barry for four years as Vice Chairman and by Shelley Weisberg for three years managing the Events Calendar.

### **Liaison Updates**

Mr. Tongue reported that Symphonia will launch Pops concerts to attract younger audiences.

Mr. Kirby said the Virginia Shakespeare Festival will provide tickets for all commissioners again this year.

Ms. Buntrock reported that the Williamsburg Youth Orchestra was invited to perform at the recent 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala for the Williamsburg Symphonia and congratulated Event Chair Paul Tongue on a successful event.

Upcoming events include: Virginia Arts Festival in Williamsburg in May (Tommy Dorsey, Patti Lupone and Tiempo Libre at the Williamsburg Lodge; the Coffee

Concert at the Williamsburg Winery), the Williamsburg Regional Library's summer reading program, June Jazz by the Cultural Alliance, ALLI Awards at the DeWitt Wallace Museum in Williamsburg (the event is scheduled for Nov. 1; nominations are due Sept. 1).

Commissioners also have attended several recent performances by WAAC-funded groups including: the Virginia Opera, the Virginia Symphony, the Williamsburg Choral Guild, the Williamsburg Players and Flute Frenzy.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Terry Buntrock, Secretary